

What is Claimed is:

1 A method of generating a dither code, comprising:
2 a) generating a first short code by dithering a reference code according to a
3 dither pattern;
4 b) generating a second short code by dithering the reference code according to
5 the dither pattern, wherein the code phases of the first and second short codes are
6 different from each other;
7 c) repeating a) and b) a predetermined number of times; and
8 d) outputting in sequence the short codes generated in a) through c) as the
9 dither code.

1 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the dither pattern changes
2 the length of the reference code according to a predetermined pattern.

1 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the dither pattern changes
2 the phase of the reference code according to a predetermined pattern.

1 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein using the dither pattern in a)
2 through c) results in the dither code having an optimal autocorrelation characteristic.

1 5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the reference code is a
2 pseudonoise code.

1 6. The method according to claim 5, wherein the dither code is a
2 stationary dither code.

1 7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the dither pattern is a
2 predetermined fixed pattern.

1 8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the dither pattern repeats
2 after a) and b) are repeated the predetermined number of times.

1 9. A method of generating a composite code from M instances of a
2 reference code that has a reference phase, where M is an integer, the method
3 comprising:
4 a) selecting an (N-1)th code generated from the reference code, the (N-1)th
5 code having an (N-1)th phase position, where N is an integer less than M;
6 b) selecting an Nth code generated from the reference code, the Nth code
7 having an Nth phase position that is different from the (N-1)th phase, and determining
8 a vector V between the (N-1)th code and phase and the Nth code and phase;
9 c) adding the vector V to the (N-1)th code and codes generated prior to the (N-
10 1)th code to determine disallowed code points; and
11 d) selecting a (N+1)th phase for a (N+1)th code from among code points other
12 than the disallowed code points.

1 10. The method of claim 9, further comprising repeating a) through d) and
2 incrementing N until $N+1=M$.

1 11. An apparatus for generating a composite code, comprising:
2 a clock oscillator outputting a clock signal;
3 a controller coupled to the clock oscillator, counting in response to the clock
4 signal, and generating a control signal based on the count and indicating a dither
5 amount; and
6 a code generator coupled to the controller and generating a code dithered in
7 response to the control signal, wherein the controller generates the control signal to
8 indicate an amount of dither for the generated code so the phase of the generated code
9 is different from the preceding code generated by the code generator.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the dither amount indicates a
2 ~~length of the code to be generated.~~

1 13. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the dither amount indicates a phase
2 rotation amount of the code to be generated.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising an transmission unit for
2 transmitting the dithered code generated by the code generator.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the controller generates the control
2 signal to control the code generator to produce the composite code to have an optimal
3 autocorrelation characteristic.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the reference code is a pseudonoise
2 code.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the controller determines the
2 amount of dither indicated in the control signal from a dither pattern.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the dither pattern is fixed in length
2 and repeats.

1 19. A transmission signal, comprising M codes each having a phase
2 dithered with respect to a reference code, wherein the phases of the M codes are
3 dithered according to a dither pattern.

1 20. The transmission signal of claim 19, wherein the phases of the M codes
2 are dithered by varying the lengths of the M codes according to the dither pattern.

1 21. The transmission signal of claim 19, wherein the phases of the M codes
2 are dithered by rotating the phase of the reference code according to the dither pattern.

1 22. The transmission signal of claim 19, wherein the M codes are dithered
2 so that the transmission signal has an optimal autocorrelation characteristic.

1 23. The transmission signal of claim 19, wherein the dither pattern is fixed
2 in length and repeats.

1 24. The transmission signal of claim 23, wherein the dither pattern is such
2 that a vector difference between any two of the M codes is not repeated among the M
3 codes.

1 25. The transmission signal of claim 24, wherein the reference code is a
2 pseudonoise code.